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Gulf Coast Faculty Council Minutes

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10-13-2015

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USM Gulf Coast Faculty Council

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MINUTES
Gulf Coast Faculty Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
9:30am – 10:45am
Hardy Hall 314

1. Call to Order

Present: David Holt, Allisa Beck, Heidi Lyn, Jorge Brown, Lin Agler, Emily Bes, H. Quincy Brown, Peter Dean, Tom Lansford, Robert Leaf, Tom Rishel, Mary Coyne, Kenneth Zantow

Proxies: Cynthia Chatham (Mary Coyne); Danielle Greenhow (Heidi Lyn)

Absent: Jacob Breland, Robert Griffitt, Maxim Van Norden

2. Approval of past minutes

Minutes were approved with no corrections

3. Officer Reports

• President

- Teaching track Faculty: This was brought before the Senate, but no decision was made. Although there is much support for it, it was felt that the document still needs work.
- Mentorship program: This is still in progress. He hasn't heard back from Casey. There was a reminder that this program will not take the place of existing mentorship programs.
- State Flag Issue: This was brought before the Senate. The general opinion is that a decision was made as to whether or not we should take a stand. President has said that we need a flag that represents the diversity of the campus population. A poll was sent out, but there are questions about the results. NCAA has made a decision that no Confederate symbol can be flown at championship games (which they sponsor).
- MW, TR classes: Why isn't Hattiesburg copying the schedule on the coast? There was agreement that this concept should be revisited. One problem is that the IVN license doesn't allow the operation of all units at one time and there aren't enough locations in Hattiesburg to offer more simultaneous connections via IVN.
- Graduation time discussion: This will probably be for 2019-2020 graduations. There was discussion about having graduation in Hattiesburg on Saturday, which would conflict with the Gulf Coast graduation. Would this mean that Gulf Coast would move graduation to Friday? There is also discussion to having three graduation ceremonies in Hattiesburg instead of the current two. Should there be a December graduation ceremony on the Coast? The plan is long term, and discussion has begun based on the expected growth of the student population.
- Summer graduation?: There is discussion about whether or not to have summer graduation.
- GCFC Status with Committee on Committees: This committee needs to meet and vote this group as an official university committee. Everyone seems to be for it,

but no decision has been made at this time. Bylaws will be needed. The main question is: Who do we answer to? (What is the chain of command? Should we answer to the provost? But the Senate answers to the president. If we are a 'mini-Senate', we should answer to the president, but it might be better to answer to the provost.) A vote was then taken, and the Council unanimously decided that the GCFC should report to the president.

- Raskind Visit: There was not a good turnout of faculty for that meeting. There are hopes that attendance at other sessions will be better.

- President-elect
No report.
- Secretary
No report.
- Secretary-elect
No report.

1. Guest Speaker – VP GC Steve Miller

He was thanked for the New Faculty/Staff party on Saturday October 10. There were over 100 in attendance.

Safety and Security: Further training of dispatchers when Gulf Park people are calling is in the works. He also spoke about the blue emergency phones. They dial the Hattiesburg campus police who then contact the Gulf Park police. Building liaisons: Dr. Miller wants to have this group come together several times a year to get training, work with Chief Hopkins, etc. Chief Hopkins has been asked to look at dates to get these meetings started. Mary Coyne asked about having the entire campus involved in some training/information sessions (including students).

He mentioned the expanded hours for the health center. (Monday through Thursday instead of just on Tuesdays.) He also discussed the new 'tele-health' feature (nurse at Gulf Park, doctor in Hattiesburg).

David Holt asked about the status of future increases in parking fees for Gulf Coast.

Fee structure: If a full-time employee is taking classes as a full-time student, should they be paying the employee rates for 'extras' (Payne Center, football tickets, etc.) or the student rates? The Council took an informal vote and all agreed that employees should be allowed student. Dr. Miller asked Dr. Holt to get something in writing to him before Thursday morning and he would discuss it with Dr. Vinzant.

Work on campus: The construction of the road in front of the campus should be finished within the next couple of weeks. The gate will be completed during spring. The design of the new building on campus is underway and should be finished within the next couple of weeks. The

Holloway Building is being demolished at this time. We hope to break ground in early January (with completion scheduled by May of 2017 and open for classes in fall of 2017).

A master plan for the Gulf Park campus is in the works. The plan should take 6 to 8 months to complete. This will probably involve more green space in the center of the campus. Future plans could include a student resource center and possibly moving tennis courts and physical plant to the outer fringes of the campus. A committee on the feasibility of residence hall(s) on campus will be formed soon.

Physical plant restructure: The search is underway to find a new director for the Physical Plant. There are now two assistant superintendents. Tim Silkman is responsible for grounds, custodial, events, etc. Kenny Jones is responsible for trades (electricity, plumbing, etc.). These positions are interim and feedback is welcome.

Student Resource Center: Currently, our students have no place like this on our campus. Space for student veterans' affairs is also needed. If funds were available, the Gulf Coast Library would be expanded to include space for student success services.

2. Old Business
 - None
3. New Business
 - None
4. Announcements
 - Homecoming (Oct 17)
 - Steve Moser visit (Lunch)
5. Adjourn

Upcoming Events/ Meetings:

Nov 10, Dec 1 (if needed), Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 8, Apr 5, May 3 (if needed)